1st November 1933]

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to show some concessions to the Depressed Class candidates in admitting them to the Rayapuram Medical School?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In answer to a previous question at the last sitting of the Council I said that, in consultation with the Surgeon-General, the Government would consider the desirability of giving some concessions to the Depressed Class candidates when sufficient number of students are not forthcoming."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether it is not desirable to fix the eligibility standard as the minimum standard for admission into the Rayapuram Medical School, because for some years the average number of marks in English for the S.S.L.C. may be high and for some years low?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There has been no difficulty in getting sufficient number of applications for admission into the Rayapuram Medical School. I do not think there is any necessity for lowering the qualifications of students. In the case of communities where we find sufficient number of students are not available the Government will consider the question of lowering the qualification."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what the rules are which guide the Selection Committee in reserving seats for minority communities without higher qualifications which are necessary in the case of others?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"At present, if I remember right a definite proportion has been fixed for each community but if the Selection Committee reports to the Government that they are not able to get a sufficient number of candidates from a particular community, the Government will consider the question of relaxing the rule."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the authorities of this school are satisfied that they are getting sufficient number of these students?" 11-15 a.m.

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have no information to the contrary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Minister kindly call for the information?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Certainly, Sir."

Prospect of opening a Medical School at Guntur.

* 251 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have finally abandoned all ideas of opening a Medical School at Guntur?

A.—Yes.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know what the Government have done with the building? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I do not think it has been put to any use."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Did the district board offer to purchase it? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" There have been offers from the district board and the local college authorities."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the education authorities have already taken charge of the building? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I believe it has been handed over to them."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" Then, may I know which is the correct answer, Sir, whether . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order."

Training and employment of midwives by local boards.

* 252 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the centres are in which first-class midwives are trained in this Presidency;

(*b*) how many are trained annually at each centre (i) at the cost of the Government and (ii) at the cost of the taluk boards and other local bodies;

(*c*) how many rural dispensaries are there districtwar in which there are no midwives; and

(*d*) whether a Government Order was issued directing presidents of local boards not to make fresh appointments in rural dispensaries; if so, why?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) Statements[a] giving the particulars required are placed on the table.

(*d*) Yes; in view of financial stringency the Government accepted the proposal of the Surgeon-General and requested presidents of taluk boards not to open subsidized rural dispensaries which had been sanctioned but not yet opened and also not to appoint midwives in subsidized rural dispensaries in which they had not been employed prior to 3rd March 1932.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I know what are the reasons for not training midwives in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Guntur? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Certain centres have been closed as a measure of retrenchment."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 305 infra.